

CHAL-0138
Copy 5 of 5.

19 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : CHALICE Operational Procedures Review
REFERENCE : CHAL-0022, 26 April 1958, same subject

1. Reference is made to your penned comment on the reference document, wherein you express the belief that our S.O.P. should provide for a backup aircraft to accompany the primary aircraft to the point of penetration. Although this proposal was touched on to some extent by the Operations Staff previously, they were asked to prepare a more detailed study of the proposal, which is attached hereto.

2. It is emphasized that even if an abort does occur prior to penetration, we really have lost nothing other than, as has been stated, "our opportunity to go that particular day". The necessity for spare aircraft under certain conditions, such as mentioned in the memorandum, is recognized and it is felt that when specific circumstances demand, an airborne spare will be used. At other times a ground spare can be made available at the operating location.

3. The required augmentation of the project overseas detachments with equipment and personnel, would constitute a major budget consideration which, I feel, you would prefer not to incur, especially at this time. The reliability which has been experienced and which I have every reason to believe will continue to improve, offsets the inconvenience of a possible abort prior to penetration and does not appear to warrant a change in existing S.O.P.'s.

4. Reconsideration of your recommendation pertaining to spare aircraft accompanying penetration flights, consistent with para. 2 above, is requested.

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for Planning and Development

Att: 2
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